

REMARKS

The application has been amended to distinguish the claimed invention over the cited prior art, and to place the application, as a whole, into *prima facie* condition for allowance at this time. Substantial care has been taken to avoid the introduction of any new subject matter into the application as a result of the foregoing amendments.

Claims 1 - 4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wakihira et al.* (Japanese patent application 03117507 A) in view of *Imanaga et al.* (US 4,983,079). Claims 5 and 6 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wakihira et al.* in view of *Crisp*, US 2,769,355. Claim 7 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wakihira et al.* in view of *Crisp*, US 2,769,355, and further in view of *Guehring et al.*, US 6,213,692. Claims 8 - 11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Wakihira et al.* in view of *Crisp*, US 2,769,355, and further in view of *Guehring et al.*, US 6,213,692. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's substantive bases for rejection of the claims.

Applicant has amended claim 1 to substantially incorporate the subject matter of dependent claim 3. The Examiner has asserted that the cited *Wakihira et al.* (Japanese patent application 03117507 A) teaches or suggests leading edge angle (β_1) and a trailing edge angle (β_2) as well as the ranges claimed in claim 1 as amended. Applicant respectfully traverses the Examiner's assertions and corresponding bases for rejection of the claims.

Applicant is submitting herewith an Information Disclosure Statement, comprising an English language translation of the entirety of the *Wakihira et al.* reference, and likewise attaches hereto copies of the relevant drawings from the cited reference and the instant application, as Exhibits A and B, respectively.

Applicant respectfully submits that the angle beta (β) shown in Fig. 1 of the cited *Wakihira et al.* reference is not the same angle as that referenced by either of leading edge angle (β_1) and a trailing edge angle (β_2), of the instant application, and thus neither of these angles is taught or suggested in the cited reference. This is especially true, with respect to trailing edge angle (β_2). While Fig. 1 of the cited reference is a

view taken from an angle similar to that of Fig. 8 of the instant application, there is no view in the cited reference that is analogous or discloses the structure shown in Fig. 9 of the instant application. Neither is there any disclosure in the text of the cited reference which could even remotely be considered to consider, teach or suggest the use or relevance of trailing edge angle (β_2). This angle simply cannot be inferred, deduced or measured from Fig. 1 of the cited reference. Only a view taken from the direction reflected in Fig. 9 of the instant application (which represents a rotation of about 90° relative to Fig. 8) can yield any information regarding trailing edge angle (β_2).

In view of the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claim 1, as amended, patentably distinguishes over the cited prior art. Therefore, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of claim 1, and allowance thereof, are respectfully solicited.

Inasmuch as dependent claims 3, and 5 - 7 merely serve to further define the invention of independent claim 1 which itself should be deemed allowable, reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejections of claims 3 and 5 - 7, and allowance thereof, are respectfully solicited.

Applicant submits that the application as a whole, including all of claims 1, 3 and 5 - 7, is in *prima facie* condition for allowance, and reconsideration and allowance of the application as a whole are respectfully solicited.

Should anything further be required, a telephone call to the undersigned, at (312) 456-8400, is respectfully invited.

Respectfully submitted,
GREENBERG TRAURIG, LLP

Dated: October 31, 2007


Douglas B. Teaney
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CERTIFICATE OF FACSIMILE TRANSMISSION

I hereby certify that this AMENDMENT AND COMMUNICATION AFTER FINAL ACTION is being transmitted via telecopier, to the United States Patent and Trademark Office, to the attention of Examiner Eric Andrew Gates, Art Unit 3722, to telecopier number 571-273-8300, on October 31, 2007.

